

GEORGIA MOUNTAINS REGIONAL COMMISSION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Ridges Resort and Marina  
Hiawassee, Georgia  
April 24, 2014

MINUTES

The GMRC Executive Committee met on Thursday, April 24, 2014, 5:00 p.m. at The Ridges Resort and Marina in Hiawassee, Georgia. The meeting was hosted by Towns County Commission.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sam Norton called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending. The following members were present:

Executive Committee Present

Sam Norton, Chairman  
Bill Black  
Bill Chafin  
Jim Conley  
Rex Farmer

GMRC Staff Present

W. Danny Lewis, Executive Director  
Peggy Lovell, Executive Assistant  
Kevin Tallant, Attorney  
Becky Sievers, Director of Finance

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Due to there not being a quorum present, the Minutes of the March 27, 2014 Executive Committee Meeting were not approved.

REPORTS

Executive Directors Report

Executive Director Danny Lewis reported that Governor Nathan Deal made several stops in our region this week. It is great to have the Governor traveling in our area. A couple of weeks ago, he spoke at the ACCG Annual Meeting and was very complimentary of some of the work that Workforce Development (WD) is doing. The Governor talked about the program that allows inmates to get their GED while incarcerated. This program started in our region with GMRC Workforce Development starting it. Also, WD is working with Department of Labor on training service men and women to get their CDL license. Most of them, when they return from duty, do not have a license to drive large equipment but have done so during their deployment.

When Georgia Mountains took over the Workforce Development, most of the services were being performed in Hall, Forsyth, and White Counties. Now the RC is proud to say they are

seeing services be performed in all 13 of our counties. Mr. Lewis asked Council Members to promote the work that Workforce Development is doing by word of mouth, Facebook, etc.

Next month's meeting will be held at the Dawson County Middle School. This will be our Legislative Appreciation Dinner.

Mr. Lewis commended Becky Sievers, Andrea Newsom, and the RLF Committee for their hard work with the RLF Loans.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### Organization of Ethics

Kevin Tallant, GMRC Attorney, discussed the Organization of Ethics Resolution and Bylaws Amendment that was unanimously approved at the March Council Meeting. The deadline to submit to GMA is April 30<sup>th</sup>. We have secured most all Council Members signatures, but lack eight. We hope to be able to get those tonight and go ahead and submit this document.

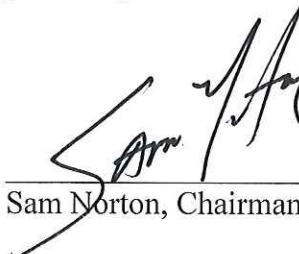
### NEW BUSINESS

#### FY15 GMRC Budget

Bill Chafin, Finance Committee Chairman, discussed the FY15 GMRC Budget. The total budget for the RC including WD is down 16% due to sequestered grant funds which will end on June 30, 2015. The fringe rate has increased from 37 to 44% due to the uncertainty of the insurance premiums increase due to the new Health Care Plan. At this time, we do not know what the rates will be. There is an increase in Dues in the amount of \$11,000 due to the 2012 Reapportionment Censes Figures from DCA. The new Budget includes a 3% salary increase for all 33 full time employees and one part-time employee. The proposed Budget was previously sent to the Executive Committee for their review. This FY15 Budget comes as a recommendation from the Finance Committee to the Council and will be voted on at the May Council Meeting.

### ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was recessed to the Council Meeting at 5:50 pm.



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Sam Norton, Chairman



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George Wangemann, Secretary